

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 01769 242014Z
ACTION SS-25

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O 241928Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 87

S E C R E T BOGOTA 1769

EXDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR HECK FROM COX

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, CASC, PINS, CO
SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF PC VOLUNTEER

REF: STATE 41038

1. I CAN WELL UNDERSTAND MRS. JENSEN'S GROWING FRUSTRATION OVER THE PAUCITY OF INFORMATION ON HER SON'S STATUS. HOWEVER, AT PRESENT THERE IS LITTLE INFORMATION AVAILABLE. MOST OF THE INFORMATION FROM THE EMBASSY'S REPORTING HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO HER, INCLUDING THE AMBASSADOR'S APPROACHES TO THE FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTERS, THEIR DELEGATION OF LIAISON OFFICERS TO WORK WITH THE EMBASSY, THE JUDGE'S STORY EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT, AND THE EL BOGOTANO STORY AND RETRAC-TION. IN ADDITION, I THINK WORD OF THE PRIVATE APPEAL TO THE FARC COULD BE PASSED TO HER, WITHOUT MENTIONING THE IDENTITY OF THE INTERMEDIARY. WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL, HOWEVER, NOT TO ENCOURAGE ANY UNDUE EXPECTATIONS ON HER PART THAT THE APPEAL TO THE FARC WILL PROSPER.

2. IF YOU CONSIDER IT ADVISABLE, I SUGGEST A MESSAGE FROM ME ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES BE CONVEYED TO MRS.

SECRET

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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 01769 242014Z

JENSEN: I HAVE CONVEYED ON A PERSONAL BASIS TO THE AMBASSADOR, DCM, AND HIS SENIOR STAFF MRS. JENSEN'S INTENSE CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF HER SON. I BELIEVE THE EMBASSY IS DOING ALL THAT IT CAN TO TRY TO BRING ABOUT THE SAFE RELEASE OF HER SON. HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT HAVE TAKEN AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THIS CASE. NEVERTHELESS, THERE ARE SERIOUS

LIMITATIONS ON WHAT CAN BE DONE, ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE LACK OF ANY COMMUNICATION FROM THE KIDNAPPERS. I AM PERSONNALLY CONFIDENT THAT HER SON IS ALIVE AND THAT THE KIDNAPPERS ARE TAKING GOOD CARE OF HIM -- BASED ON THEIR CONDUCT IN THE CASE OF THE HONORARY DUTCH CONSUL AND THE COMMENTS OF COLOMBIAN MILITARY OFFICIALS, REPORTED BY THE EMBASSY. I AND THE EMBASSY SHARE HER ANXIETY AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO HELP BRING ABOUT HER SON'S RELEASE.

3. LOCAL NEWS CLIPPINGS ON THE KIDNAPPING ARE BEING POUCHED TO DORIS BRINKMAN TO PASS TO MRS. JENSEN. CAPT. JACK DANIS, CHIEF OF MILGP, WHO IS FLYING TO WASH SATURDAY FEB 26 WILL BE DELIVERING DUPLICATE SET OF CLIPPINGS TO YOUR OFFICE.

4. NEEDLESS TO SAY, WHENEVER WE SAY WE ARE DOING WHAT WE CAN, IT IS UNDERSTOOD TO MEAN WITHIN THE GUIDELINES OF OUR EXSISTING POLICY.
SANCHEZ

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NNN

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